

WHO SHALL
SEPARATE US
FROM THE



*love of
Christ?*

ROMANS 8:35, ESV

August 02, 2020

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
38801 Blacow Road
Fremont, CA 94536
Church: (510) 793-6285

August 02, 2020
9th Sunday after Pentecost
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

[Click here for a video of the full service.](#)

PRELUDE . . . *“Canticle of the Turning”*
Favorite Hymn of Carmen Blair

WELCOME

SINGING BOWL

INVOCATION

P: God, you are the source of human dignity, and it is in your image that we are created.

All: Pour out on us the spirit of love and compassion.

P: Enable us to reverence each person,

All: to reach out to anyone in need,

P: to value and appreciate those who differ from us,

All: to share the resources of our nation,

P: to receive the gifts offered to us by people from other cultures and ethnicities.

All: Grant that we may always promote the justice and acceptance that ensures lasting peace and racial harmony.

P: Help us to remember that we are one world and one family.

All: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come to the water, all you who thirst—come drink deeply from the river of life.

All: Come to the water, all you who are weary—come rest in the quiet pools of God’s love.

L: Come to the water, all you who long for a justice—come be renewed in God’s ever-flowing stream.

All: For God is here among us, washing away the dust and grime of our lives, and pouring out the Spirit on all who thirst. Let’s worship God together.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign if the cross.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

All: Amen.

P: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Reconciling God,

All: we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives.

P: We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.

All: We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed.

P: By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us;

All: and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

P: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

All: Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

LITANY

L: What does the Lord require of you?

All: To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

L: What does God command of us?

All: To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

L: God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

All: But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.

L: Let us worship the God who believes in us, and trusts in us, and abides with us.

All: Let us worship the God who will ask much of us, but will be beside us every step of the way.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy.

All: By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Reader: You are the living God who sustains all life in continually unfolding ways. And now may we open our ears to your continually unfolding Word. You speak to us in new and vital and imperative ways.

All: With all the power you have given us, let us be silent and open to listening... for nourishment, comfort, for challenge and new focus. Amen.

Reader: The reading is from Romans chapter eight, beginning with the twenty-sixth verse.

READING . . . *Romans 8:26-39*

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME . . . *Pastor Barbara Caine*

HOMILY . . . *Pastor Barbara Caine*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: God of ancient times and future hope, we bring these gifts to bless your world with hope. Please bless these gifts, that they may be a blessing to others.

All: And bless us with patience and faith, that we may bring hope to a hurting world. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Let us pray the Prayer of the Church:

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Merciful God, your reign is revealed to us in common things: a mustard shrub, a woman baking bread, a fishing net. Help your church witness to the surprising yet common ways you encounter us in daily life. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. Increase our understanding and awe of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers. Treasuring the earth, may we live as grateful and healing caretakers of our home. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: As the birds of the air nest in branches of trees, gather the nations of the world into the welcoming shade of your merciful reign. Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and walk in the way of justice and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: You show steadfast love and direct us to ask of you what we need. Help this congregation ask boldly for what is most needed. Refresh us with new dreams of being your people in this place and time. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Hear now the prayers of our hearts said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayers.

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: Go forth knowing that you are part of God's family.

All: We go forth proclaiming the praises of God.

P: Go forth in the assurance that Christ is always with us.

All: We go forth to bring the kingdom of God wherever we are.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

All: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE . . . *“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

Favorite Hymn of Ellen Di Paola

SINGING BOWL

Pastor: Tim Huff
Lay Liturgist: Karen Narveson
Music: Leilani Camara & Dean Sieglaff
Video Editing: Carmen Blair
Web and Social Media: Keith Hillesland and Kathy Miedema

